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A decorative title graphic. It features the word "Maryland" in a large, ornate, black, Gothic-style font. The letter "M" is flanked by intricate, symmetrical scrollwork and floral motifs. Below "Maryland" is a horizontal band with a repeating geometric pattern of small squares and rectangles. To the right of "Maryland" is the word "Farmer" in a similar black, Gothic-style font. A stylized sun with rays is positioned between the two words. The entire design is set against a light-colored background with a decorative border at the top.

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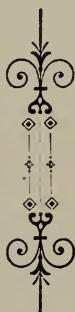
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AND NEW FARM.

Vol. XXVIII. BALTIMORE, May 1891. No. 5.

EVENING.

FROM VICTOR HUGO.

THE calm of evening falls upon the plain :  
Here let us rest. The sunset gilds again  
The old arch—silent skies lie over us.

A far forge answers to the Angelus.

God on the bell, man on the anvil, strike  
The same key-note ; and star and hearth alike  
Illuminate. Our destiny is here,  
In these two sounds—mysterious—austere.  
They take the helm, my sweet ! they point the way :  
The forge says “Work”—the Vesper bell says “Pray.”

For The Maryland Farmer.

## OUR NEW FARM, XXI.

### SOME STRAWBERRIES.

**I**T WILL be remembered that the first year we could not put out many Strawberries; although I acknowledge I had great faith in them.

But we made quite a patch of them, which bore the next year, giving us plenty for our home table.

This patch I determined to make serve me for a large plantation in the future; but I have now discovered that the difficulty in my locality was to get suitable pickers, who would make it a profitable crop for us. I have plowed up the plantation.

To raise about what is needed in the home is a duty not to be neglected. Then I think I can manage about one acre for market.

The soil on which I am raising strawberries is rather light and therefore I have been obliged to select my kinds very carefully. Experience taught me that many of the kinds of berries, most praised, were entirely worthless on my farm; except, perhaps, as an experiment.

Accordingly I grew the Cresent and the Wilson for my principal crop, and then for later berries the Kentucky seedling, which were good for my purpose.

Even on this amount of land I found it hard to obtain help enough to pick the berries properly for market. As I had resolved I would not ask my own family to do any such work, I made up my mind that the berries might rot rather than break my resolution.

But one day in the very height of the

season looking over the field who should I see there but James Camden and my daughter busily filling the boxes.

I noticed, too, that they seemed to be picking on the same row, and the boxes were filled so rapidly that I judged they were picking into the same box.

I was not near enough to hear what they were saying; but I judge it was something pleasant for I could hear a ripple of laughter from them occasionally.

I concluded they had planned to astonish me with their work, for the strawberry patch was not located in full view of the house and I had planned to work about something else during that day.

When dinner time came nothing was said about the berries, but I noticed that daughter's face was a little colored by the sun and wind, although I made no mention of it.

I had an errand during the afternoon down to the depot, which took me away from home and on my return my work did not call me in the direction of the strawberry acre.

About supper-time I came into the house and my dear wife said:

“Father, step out into the wood-shed and see what has been done to-day.”

I stepped through the kitchen to the door of the shed and exclaimed in a tone of astonishment:

“Why, who has done all this!”

It was indeed a goodly array of boxes of strawberries, which would make a fair load for shipment on the midnight train.

“Why, Charley and Lizzie and two of

their children and I believe James and daughter were out there some of the time overseeing them."

Then I said :

"Oh, yes, I guess James and daughter must have helped right smart to gather all those berries!"

So when we sat down to supper and had commenced to eat I said to my daughter :

"Good company makes light work, doesn't it, sis?"

Then daughter blushed very vividly, and the mother and I laughed heartily which only made matters worse.

Then I said :

"Oh, that isn't anything to blush about, my daughter. I suppose we all know about such things. But I am exceedingly pleased with your work this time, for I was afraid the berries would suffer. But I don't wish you to pick them for market, or feel at all as if that work was necessary on your part."

Then daughter said :

"We didn't pick them for the sake of the market; only we thought we would surprise you and have a pleasant day ourselves, too."

And I answered :

"Well, you have surprised me, indeed, and I am thankful that my girl can have pleasure in giving such surprises to her old father."

Then she said :

"I was talking to James about the strawberries yesterday, and how you were afraid you would lose a good many of them, and he said he would be at leisure to-day and "stumped" me to go into the field and pick them with him."

And I laughed and said :

"And my girl wasn't to be "stumped" was she?"

She said :

"I answered him, "all right," and then I told mother about it, and she said "I don't think father will object to having you pick them." So we did it."

And I said to her :

"Well, it's all right. They look better than any we have picked this season, and ought to bring a good price."

I was very fortunate in having a very good crop, for in other parts of the State the blossoms had been cut by a severe frost just in their full bloom and good strawberries were comparatively scarce in Baltimore market.

I sent a special letter with this lot to my Baltimore merchant, and asked him to purchase a nice pair of brown kid gloves,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  size, and send them to me through the mail. I wanted them as a gift to my girl for picking the berries.

After the gloves had been received and examined by my wife and myself and found all right, one evening at the supper table, I began searching my pockets very diligently until my daughter's attention was fully aroused, and she asked :

"What's the matter, father? What are you hunting for?"

Then I answered :

"Oh, I thought I put a small package in my pocket for you that I got down at the Post Office to-day. But never mind."

Daughter looked down at her plate and said not a word.

Pretty soon I began to hunt again in my pockets and I looked at my wife and said :

"I wonder where I put that letter."

Then daughter said :

"Oh, no matter, papa, another time will do just as well."

By this time I had found it, so I said ; "Ah, here it is," and I handed it over to my daughter.

Immediately she said ;

"Why, this is not directed to me. It is one of your business letters."

I answered :

"Oh, yes, let me see. That's right. I heard James was coming over here after supper to take a walk, and I didn't want him to see how your hands were burned picking those berries, so I just had my Baltimore man send those for you."

Then while she opened the letter and extracted the gloves, her face full of blushes, she said :

"Now, papa!"

Then in a moment :

"Oh, aren't they beauties ! I'm ever so much obliged ! and just the right size; how did you know?"

Then she placed them beside her plate and was very busily engaged with her supper.

Then wife said :

"I think they are very fine gloves and will be what you have wanted for some time, especially for Sunday. I don't think you have had a pair for some time now."

Then daughter said :

"I don't think I have ever had a pair quite so nice as they are."

And I said :

"And all the associations connected with those are so very pleasant, also. It gives us all pleasure that you have got them."

A day or two afterward my wife said to me :

"Our girl has shown her gloves to James and told him all about her getting them for picking the strawberries."

And I said :

"Oh, I expected that. I suppose they had a good laugh over it."

And wife said :

"She didn't say anything about that."

Thus you see, my dear friends, that life on the farm has its pleasures as well as its toils. The opportunities to give pleasure to every member of the family are constantly offering themselves to the thoughtful, and no life comes nearer than this to a perfect life for the development of our entire kindly nature.

My experiment with the strawberries, however, satisfied me of the fact : That while they were a very profitable crop if properly handled ; it was not possible—unless by a great deal of trouble and care—to get it properly handled. I therefore determined not to grow more than an acre for market, and then only grow them as follows :

First, the very earliest berry I could obtain and in the very earliest spot on my farm, sheltered perfectly from the north and west winds by fence, or hedge, or fringe of evergreen trees.

Next, the very latest berry I could obtain, in the most backward northern exposure, so that I could have the very handsomest fruit after the market had become bare of strawberries from any other producers.

This is the theory upon which I am now working the strawberry business on Our New Farm.

Of course, for our own table, I have in

our garden berries which will come from the earliest all along until the latest; because I believe that I would be a heathen did I deprive ourselves of the benefit and enjoyment of this delicious fruit, when it is so easily provided, and so bountifully given to the very minimum of labor.

*To be continued.*

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For The Maryland Farmer.

#### Shall I Go West?

A young man making this inquiry the other day received the answer:

"Oh yes, go to Dakota and every third year or so, you can have the pleasure of appealing to the people of the Eastern States for food and seed to keep you from starving."

"Or, in Arkansas, Northern Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, outside of the mining districts, and enjoy the same privileges of help from us who plod along contented with the enjoyments and comforts of civilized life in the east."

"Or, go to the north of this line of drouth and failure of crops and enjoy the intense cold, 20 or 30 degrees below Zero, with an occasional blizzard also where half of your family will perish between the house and barn and the other half have no communication for weeks with the nearest neighbor, or the adjoining town."

"Deprive yourself and your family of all the benefits of the civilization of the age and work like a slave until you are all too old to enjoy whatever chance may have brought you, by the increased value of your possessions."

This is about what may be expected by anyone who goes West with the view of farming in that region.

Of course, there are numerous occupations in the West as in the East, where those who have fitted themselves to occupy them will be reasonably certain of success. But this in the populous cities and towns, and subject to the same, or stronger competition than here in the East.

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#### The Angry Tree.

A specimen of it is found in Virginia, Nevada, brought from Australia. It is a species of acacia.

When the sun sets the leaves fold up and the twigs coil tightly.

If the shoots are handled, the leaves rustle and move uneasily for a time.

If the queer plant is removed from one pot to another, it seems angry and the leaves stand out in all directions like quills on a porcupine. A pungent and sickening odor, said to resemble that given off by rattlesnakes when annoyed, fills the air, and it is only after an hour or so that the leaves fold in the natural way.

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#### Onions from the Seed.

By sowing seeds of the Italian varieties, it is easy to grow full sized onions in Maryland or anywhere else from the seed. If extra large onions are wanted, sow the seed first of October thickly in a sheltered bed. In spring transplant them to heavily manured soil, or start them in a cold frame in February and transplant first of April, and you will have larger

onions than by raising sets of the Northern sorts and keeping them over a year.

W. F. MASSEY.

For the Maryland Farmer.

### The Team.

During the spring the heavy work of ploughing is affecting the team, and horses and mules should have the very best of care.

It is sometimes trying to the patience of the driver when the team does not do just what he wants done; but let him remember, that the team have their trials, and he should never speak in an angry, loud or threatening way to them.

The team which is trying to do their best should no more be lashed with the whip, than should the hired man who is trying to do his best.

It will some day be a sign of brutality to carry a whip with which to threaten or whip a horse.

We have seen many a case where judging from the actions of driver and team, the driver was far the greater brute of the two.

Perhaps there are few animals more intelligent than the mule, and all his bad traits are generally brought about by brutes of drivers, who have no better sense than to suppose the cudgel is the only means of persuading him to work.

Living as we do where we see many mules, and many apologies for human beings driving them, we are often shocked at the unmerciful character of punishment bestowed upon this most patient of all man's servants.

Take care of the teams this spring.

Treat them kindly. Speak to them in low, pleasant tones. They will do vastly more work for you and do it with willing energy. They will, also, show their appreciation of your thoughtfulness in many ways.

For The Maryland Farmer.

### FACTS TO BE REMEMBERED.

There is much nonsense written and printed about "Scrubs." Many a non-de-scrip scrub stands far above the second and third rate thorough bred ( and there are hosts of these ) in every element of profit.

In working a small farm, remember these facts :

- 1 You have richer land.
- 2 You cultivate less surface.
- 3 You require less teams.
- 4 You hire less labor.
- 5 You harvest more easily.
- 6 You get magnificent crops.
- 7 You astonish your neighbors.
- 8 You satisfy yourself.

In fact you experience the real value of making one acre accomplish the work of two, or three, or four, ordinary acres of common land.

Do not be frightened when told to practice intensive farming. It only means turn all your farm land into garden land, and grow as much from every cultivated acre of your farm land, as the most skillful gardener grows from his acre.

Your object should be to gradually bring your farm into such a condition as to support your family with the least

possible labor on your part. This you can do by growing permanent crops, which will only require your supervision in gathering and selling them.

You seek primarily a good, happy and contented life. Spend whatever you may have to secure this kind of a life. Count nothing lost which brings happiness to your family and to yourself.

Promises are not always performance. Wall street speculations may promise magnificent results; but when Wall street utterly fails, the old farm gives the shelter and food just as if nothing unusual had happened.

This is an important fact. You have gone through the year, and looking over your dollars, you have added nothing to your store. The farm, however, has supplied all your necessities and given many comforts. The largest comfort should be the sense of content.

When you sell stock, don't part with the best you have—always sell the poorest. If you have any it does not pay to keep, get rid of them as soon as possible, and replace with those which will pay.

If you love your horse, hold on to him. Don't exchange, even if you expect to get a trifle better. They all have their failings, and you and your family know just what your old horse is, both as to good and bad traits.

If you have a poor spot on your farm and wish to improve it quickly, use commercial fertilizer to start with; then

green manure, in the shape of clover, will always do the work.

Every wash day save all the suds for the garden; and every day when the dishes are washed, let the water be made of use, as you can get nothing better as a fertilizer.

No land can bear a crop without being fed for it in some way. If your orchard does not bear, is it not because it has not been fed? The best feed for orchards is a good supply of wood ashes—broadcast and harrow in thoroughly.

If you don't have a garden now, a good garden for the kitchen, half of the family support is lacking during the summer and fall months, unless you pay for it in cash.

You can grow more on an acre of your garden, than on any other three of your farm. Why should not all the farm be in the same condition?

Look over the acres of your farm. Here are ten acres which have not paid a dollar of profit, and here are two acres in small fruits which have paid each \$75 in profit. Let the ten acres alone and have more of the two acres crop.

Here are your cattle looking at you—three over there you keep at a loss—one on the right just pays for feed and care—and this one on the left pays a big profit. What is the lesson? This last is worth more than all the others to keep. Get rid of those and keep this one.



For the Maryland Farmer.

**RHUBARB, OR PIE PLANT.**

BY DR. CRACE-CALVERT.

Rhubarb, or Pie Plant, as it is called in many places, is one of the very best vegetables of early spring for the promotion of health. It is a blood purifier which has very few equals in the vegetable kingdom.

It is the only fruit which contains bin oxalate of potash in connexion with any of the flavoring acids. And this bin oxalate of potash gives it the peculiar property of healthfulness in this season.

Taken when young and if grown rapidly so that it has the minumum of stringiness and is tender and brittle, the flavor is as delicious as any acid can possibly be, and its effect upon the system is invariably excellent.

It is a wonder when this fruit is known to have such a beneficial influence that it is not more generally cultivated, and made cheap and plentiful in our markets.

Now that sugar is so cheap, there is no reason to reject it because of the cost of preparing it—the wise will use it as often as possible.

For The Maryland Farmer.

**ROADS.**

The State needs the very best of roads and we are heartily of opinon that the following classes should be legally bound to work on the roads:

1. The able pauper,
2. The Tramps,
3. The Criminal.

All their time should, both winter and summer, be given to work on the roads.

In the winter preparing the material and in the summer applying it to the roads.

This would accomplish very desirable objects:

1. It would withdraw their labor from competition with all other laborers, mechanics and artisans.

2. Sooner than the most sanguine could anticipate, our State would become thoroughly furnished with good roads which would be a perpetual advertisement for us.

3. It would free us effectually from the tramp nuisance, with the greatest burden of crime, fear and anxiety which now rests upon all country homes, through the tramps.

We want this thing made obligatory by law,—not merely permissible; but that the law should make it binding.

**ABOUT WEDDINGS.**

A wedding at home usually takes place in the evening. The invitation in this case is restricted to a single sheet of newspaper, and it is "the pleasure of your company" that is craved.

The wedding cake proper is a fruit cake baked in flat tins, so that it may be cut to suit the small boxes in which it is afterward distributed among the guests.

These small lustrous white boxes are daintily lined with lace paper and tied with satin ribbons.

On occasions these boxes are worthy to be kept as souvenirs.

Those provided for Mr. Cleveland's wedding were covered with white satin. On one corner was a monogram of the high contracting parties in silver; on

another, the date. These were tied with painted white satin ribbons.

The old-fashioned bridal cake, that marvelous towering structure, is no more. There may be a simple round cake for the bridal party alone, which the bride cuts, and in which is hidden the magical ring, but the most approved manner of testing fate is in small sugared white cakes, in one of which is a pretty ring. These are handed to the bridesmaids and maids of honor, and bring to the lucky one blushes and congratulations.

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#### AN EAST INDIAN'S LIFE.

The bed of a dweller in East India is spread upon the floor, and for a pillow is used a sort of blanket, which is utilized at the same time for containing the valuables of the house. The covering for the sleeper is made of cotton, woven by hand.

There are no chairs, and the occupants sit on the floor with crossed legs, or in a reclining posture, with one leg over the other.

There are no musical instruments, no notes, no set music.

The East Indians lie down without undressing, and on rising roll up the bed and stow it away.

Their principal food is rice, which those who are at the table eat with the same spoon.

There are no puddings, no deserts, and whoever is the last to rise from the table is compelled to wash the dishes.

Woman has scarcely any place in society, literature or art. Man is the master, and rules.

The language is simple, consists of

twenty-five letters for an alphabet, and can be learned in a year and a half by one associating with the people.

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#### BURGLAR ALARM.

A decided improvement has been suggested upon the burglar-alarm system.

"I do not want a little bell near my bed, to awaken me when any one opens a door or window," said a merchant the other day, "but I want an eighteen-inch gong in the very centre of the hall, so that the burglar himself can hear it distinctly. If it is only a little bell in my own room, it simply wakes me up; and I must get up and dress myself, and go down and find the burglar, which is just what I do not want to do. I would rather give him warning that I am coming, and afford him every opportunity for avoiding a meeting."

Few burglars would have the imprudence to keep on stealing, with an eighteen-inch gong banging away in the hall.

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#### CITY GARDENS.

##### Portable Strawberry Beds.

An old negro in one of the New England States, it is stated, is making a great success in a small way, by growing strawberries in pails. Not a bad idea, at least under certain circumstances. He had his pails, when a reporter called to see him, setting on benches back of his shanty, and the strawberries were the finest ever seen. He moves his straw-

berry beds about as circumstances require, and can easily bid defiance to the elements that often harm the plant or berry. It is a matter worthy of consideration by those who have little ground and would like to grow strawberries. In towns and cities the plan would seem to be feasible, and perhaps it might, under some conditions, be extended beyond them.

the fowl's legs into the oil a couple of times, once in two or three days, till the scales begin to loosen; then stop using the oil and rub the legs gently with melted lard.

It is claimed that Wyandotte eggs average two ounces each in weight.

Farmers who have kept a strict ac-



#### POULTRY SQUIBS.

Lack of pure water may often account for the lack of eggs.

Fanny Field says coal oil will cure scaly legs in fowls "every time." Dip

count with their stock say that a pound of poultry can be made for less than a pound of pork, yet the laboring man who has to buy both feels that he cannot afford to buy poultry very often, as it costs more than other meats.

Buy your eggs this month. It is not too late for hatching. June is soon enough for Leghorns and birds of that class.

Dry salt is as good as any material that can be used for preserving eggs. Pack in boxes, turning the boxes twice a week.

If the chicks are fed on dry meal and bran, and cracked corn and wheat, and the feed is placed in boxes in sheltered spots, they will not have to eat soured and unwholesome food.

We would not undertake to raise chickens or to keep poultry through the Winter and Spring without a plentiful supply of dry earth. The best time to store it is whenever it is dry.

An excellent method of utilizing the hay seed and dust is to place it where the hens can scratch it over. They will find quite an amount of valuable material which would be useless for any other purpose.

Burn the bones and feed them to your fowls.

Orcharding and poultry raising go well together.

Corn makes rich, fine-flavored eggs of good size; but not so many of them as more nitrogenous food.

Tarred paper applied to the outside of the building and exposed to all kinds of weather, if put on with care, will last

two seasons. Tarred paper applied to the inside of buildings will be of some service in protecting the fowls against vermin.

Blood and meat make hens lay more eggs, but smaller and of inferior quality.

Crocodile eggs taste very much like the eggs of hens, and natives of Africa feast on them, considering them a great luxury.

Fowls should never be allowed in barns stables or carriage-house.

If the premises are kept clean, and a dust bath with a little sulphur provided, the hens will rid themselves of lice.

#### THIN EGG SHELLS.

If the egg shells are thin it is a sign that lime is lacking in the food, or often, if this occurs in winter, that fowls cannot get to the ground to fill their gizzards with gravel needed to digest food properly. Leghorn hens and other persistent layers generally have very thin shelled eggs despite all precautions in feeding. Many losses of eggs while undergoing incubation occur from this cause. To prevent eggs from being thin-shelled it is better to give milk and wheat middlings mixed rather than rely on fowls eating a sufficiency of lime in any form. If egg shells are fed they should be pounded that all appearance of the egg will be destroyed. More fowls learn to eat eggs from having nearly whole shells thrown to them to peck at than from any other cause.

Entered as second class matter at Baltimore, Md.

— THE —  
**MARYLAND FARMER**  
 — AND —  
 NEW FARM.

**Agriculture, Live Stock and Home Life.**

**Oldest Agricultural Journal in Maryland  
 and for ten years the only one.**

Published Monthly at 887 N. Howard Street,  
 BALTIMORE, MD.

**WALWORTH & Co.,**  
**Editors and Publishers.**

**TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION**

\$1.00 a year in advance.  
 1.50 if not paid until the end of the year.

**RATES OF ADVERTISING.**

\$1.00 an inch, 12 lines nonpareil, each insertion.  
 Discounts, 10 off for 3 mos., 15 for 6, 20 for 9, 25 for 12.  
 Covers, p. 2 add 30, 3 add 25, 4 add 50.  
 Special location, on any page, 20 per cent extra.  
 No reading notices free.  
 Reading notices twice the price of advertisements.

**REMOVAL.**

The Principal office of the **MARYLAND FARMER** will hereafter be at 887 North Howard St., opposite the 5th Regiment Armory, Baltimore, Md., where we shall be happy to see our friends who may have occasion to visit the city.

For the convenience of those whose business is mostly in the lower section of the city, we have made arrangements to have a branch office at the old stand, with E. Whitman, Sons & Co., 27 East Pratt Street, who will receive subscriptions and orders in our behalf.

**An Exploded Idea.**

It has been quite fashionable to speak of farmers with a sneer as "clod-hopper," as "ignorant," as "green," as rightfully the subjects of contemptuous epithets.

But that day is fast disappearing; the idea may pass among the exploded ideas of the present century.

We occasionally hear these allusions made by public speakers who have not learned better—fools who never will learn better—lecturers on the platform and ministers in the pulpit.

The successful farmer of to-day stands the peer of the proudest and most intelligent in the land. If not as learned as the college professors in technical names and scientific terms, yet practically far more learned than any professor in the true knowledge of nature and of those elements which make a successful and happy life.

As years pass over us, we are becoming only more confirmed in the belief that the present method of classical education is at utter variance with the great needs of the people.

We spent years of our life in studies of the Greek and Latin classics, and we are confident that just as good discipline for the mind and a far better discipline for heart and life could have been given by other and useful and practical studies.

Agriculture as a study in schools and colleges is far superior to any amount of Greek and Latin both as a discipline and as a preparation for future usefulness.

But it should be not only the study of theoretical agriculture; it should be agricultural knowledge reduced to practice: and then the very highest branches

of learning belonging to that practice will fit the farmer for a life of intelligent happiness, peace and power.

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#### THE JAPANESE WINEBERRY.

In our March number we described what we thought would become a valuable addition to our small fruits, in reference to which we have received the following communication, showing the general influence of the MARYLAND FARMER with the press throughout the country.

“The Pioneer Press, Weekly Edition.”  
Edward Richards, Editor.  
St. Paul, Minn., April 17, 1891.

“Editor Maryland Farmer.

Dear Sir:

An article credited to your publication about the “Japanese Wineberry,” is having an extraordinary circulation throughout the West, and I am deluged with correspondence as to where it is cultivated, and whether any nurserymen in Maryland or elsewhere are prepared to fill orders for tips or cuttings. Any information on the subject will be gratefully received and cordially reciprocated by

Yours truly,  
Edward Richards”

We took great pleasure in directing the attention of Mr. Richards to the present proprietor of the stock on sale in this country, John Lewis Childs, Floral Park, N. Y., who will answer all letters. We also take this method of answering those who have addressed us on the subject.

#### COMPLIMENTS.

The artistic beauty of our advertisements have brought us many compliments and seem to be attracting much attention from various parts of the country. We feel pleased to be able to place on record this fact.

The secret of successful advertising is in making the advertisement itself attractive, and then saying in few words just what you wish to sell, in the plainest way, so that the reader can understand it perfectly.

It is our work to make the advertisement attractive in appearance and we place it in the hands of our artist, if permitted, who will put it into proper shape. It is gratifying to have evidence of his success in this regard.

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#### TAKE NOTICE.

We would like our readers to notice particularly the advertisement on the last page of the cover, where we make special offers for new subscribers. We would also state to our old subscribers that to each one who will pay now all arrears for the present year, and one year in advance we will give the same premiums. We wish everyone to realize that we intend to do the liberal thing with them in this matter.

Our object is to so increase our subscription list in the next few months that our advertisers may realize more than ever the value of our columns and help our subscribers and ourselves in the production of a magazine which shall abound in all good things.

We ask each reader therefore to show

to their neighbors our liberal offers, which are adapted to every member of the family and cannot fail to please.

#### Cotton Picking Machine.

We read in our Exchanges of the wonderful work of the Cotton Picking Machine. If, as there stated, it has reduced the cost of picking from \$16 a bale to \$1.50 a bale, the value of it can scarcely be estimated.

In ten millions of bales the saving alone is \$145,000,000; an item which stands for the permanent prosperity of thousands of homes in the South.

It will be some time, of course, before it can be generally introduced, and there may be some difference in the quality of the stock as manipulated; but the great fact remains that the work of picking cotton will be reduced to minimum by this machine.

The dearth of labor will be provided for in a measure, also, and another of the great problems of the cotton belt will have been solved.

It is an added item in the future prosperity of the South and gives emphasis to the words, "Go South."

#### MORE TUBERCULOSIS.

We clip the following from one of our New England Exchanges. The general belief of physicians has been expressed as decidedly on the effect of this disease among cattle as on any other subject. That belief seems to be: Children who use the milk of

cows suffering from tuberculosis, are innoculated with the disease; and it requires a vigorous constitution to resist the permanent evil effects of it.

In other words: The great prevalence of consumption in New England may be traced primarily to the use of this diseased milk by infants and young children.

We do not wonder therefore that the most stringent measures are to be taken, and the following only strengthens the justice of extreme measures:

"The appearance of tuberculosis among New Hampshire cattle has caused much anxiety. It appears in virulent form. A valuable herd of twenty-five Jerseys were killed a few days since, and the special correspondent of the *New York Herald* states that the butter product of these diseased cattle had been shipped to Boston, where it was sold to the gilt-edged trade at fifty cents per pound. The cattle inspectors are actively at work, hunting out and killing infected cattle. There is hope that the disease may be averted before great havoc is made."

#### FARMERS POLITICAL WORK.

We had the pleasure of attending the Luncheon given by the Hon. Frank Brown to the Editors of the State, primarily to thank them for their hearty support in the Exposition given two years ago.

We found, however, that while he intended it for this purpose, the

democratic editors who had been in consultation that day, were very full of politics, and were generally very enthusiastic in advocating the candidacy of Hon. Frank Brown for Governor of Maryland.

So strong indeed were the speeches, that he was finally forced to accept the genuineness of the pressure and to publicly announce his candidacy.

He was frequently spoken of as Farmer Brown and he expressed the fact that his greatest interest was that of the farmer.

Farmers, however, must remember that very wealthy men in Office are not always in full sympathy with the economic reforms which it is their interest to bring about, and Farmer Brown should give the definite assurance that he is in perfect harmony with the farmer's wishes in this State and also on National questions.

We cannot tell to-day the position he may hold on the equalizing of taxation, the reduction of office holders, the reduction of salaries of State employes, the granting of aid to farmers' enterprizes, the making farmers' charges, whatever they may be, just as binding in law as are those of lawyers or doctors, and equally collectable, as well as his disposition to recommend such reforms and laws as shall protect the farmers' interests.

All these things may have the ready advocacy of Farmer Brown, so that the farmer's work may be in perfect accord with that of the Democratic party in his candidacy.

The farmer's political work will

not end here, however. They should see that the candidate of the Republican party shall be substantially on their platform, also. And old parties should not prevent them from resolving to give the office to that one who can be best relied upon to carry out their principles.

Most of all, however, let the legislature be secured—this must be the farmers' greatest political work.

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#### DEATH OF W. W. W. BOWIE.

It will be remembered by many of our readers that Col. W. W. W. Bowie, was for many years the Assistant Editor of the Maryland Farmer, which position he held up to the close of the volume for 1884. He was an excellent agricultural writer, and few were better posted than he upon all departments of Stock. We quote from the Baltimore Sun:

Col. W. W. W. Bowie, a well-known Maryland lawyer and agriculturist, died Thursday night at the home of his daughter in Philadelphia. He had been ailing some time with gout, but his son, Reginald Bowie, No. 525 West Baltimore street, who received a telegram yesterday announcing the death, says the cause was not stated. Colonel Bowie went to Philadelphia Friday a week ago from Annapolis in better health than usual. He was born in Prince George's county, seventy-nine years ago. In 1870 he sold his farms in Southern Maryland and moved to Baltimore, becoming a writer for the agricultural columns of THE SUN and

the Maryland Farmer. He was an active politician, and ran for Congress and for attorney-general of Maryland, but was defeated on both occasions. He was several times State's attorney in Prince George's county. He was a third cousin to ex-Gov. Oden Bowie. Colonel Bowie married Miss Adeline Snowden.

For the Maryland Farmer.

#### THAT "BUSINESS MAN."

In the Chicago *Prairie Farmer*, is a communication ridiculing the farmers' complaints about tariff, silver, taxation, protection of other industries, &c., and placing all the fault upon the farmer's wasteful and extravagant habits.

Of course in the west habits of wastefulness are particularly observable, and everywhere some cases of extravagant wastefulness may be found.

But if Mr. Thomas will take any Western farmer and reckon up his waste for the past ten years—the entire sum can be shown to be only a very small part of what a single protected manufacturer will spend in one trip of pleasure to Europe. And the manufacturer will not complain either—simply because he has no reason to complain—the whole government being at work for his welfare.

It is the veriest talk, and only talk, where the hard times of farmers are thrown back upon the lack of economy exercised by them. There is just as much lack of economy in all other classes.

The farmers are sick of reading such nonsense and enumerating items of

wastefulness amounts to nothing. A single party given by a "gold bug" costs more than a dozen farmers waste in a year.

What's the matter with the *Prairie Farmer*?

For The Maryland Farmer.

#### SOME BRAG.

It is quite remarkable the amount of "brag" which is expended by Californians. Very recently it has been printed and circulated that the Horticultural interests of California are greater than all the rest of the U. S. put together.

California is a large State and her fruits are undoubtedly of fine character and of a nature to secure the admiration of the whole country. But compared with the sections of the East, her produce is only "one drop in the bucket."

She is able to supply her own wants perhaps and can ship a few extra goods to some of our largest eastern markets. That is all, as yet. The great bulk of eastern trade is still supplied by regions not very far remote from the great cities.

Even New York gets her supply mostly from the little section of New Jersey and Long Island, with her earliest supplies from Norfolk, the Carolinas and Florida.

It would even astonish some of those who "brag" so loudly to see the crop of millions of baskets of peaches in a favorable year of the little peninsula of Delaware and Maryland between the two bays, called by us "The Eastern Shore."

In some branches of horticulture we do not pretend that we can compete with California. Her prunes and oranges are especially beyond us, but her Wines are

as yet far out done in other sections of our country from Missouri to New York.

But be patient, Californians, you are only a sturdy child at present, you will become mature in manhood and womanhood all in due season.

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#### TRANSPLANTING ONIONS.

According to results obtained at the Experiment Station of Ohio last year, in the matter of growing onions from seed in the greenhouse and afterwards transplanting the young plants in the open ground, the results were decidedly in favor of the transplanted ones. A month was gained in the time of ripening of the crop, all the troublesome detail of keeping the young onions from being smothered by weeds was overcome, while the yield of those transplanted was in most cases about double that of the others.

The common market sorts showed 524 bushels to the acre of the transplanted against 398 bushels from the seed of the Yellow Danvers, while the Weathersfield showed 779 against 560 respectively. Other kinds were even more favorable. The transplanting of onions is an old process among gardeners, in filling in gaps and loss from seed by one party, who obtained a supply from those more fortunate, even when the seed was sown in the ordinary way out of doors. The writer has known of some growers who always transplanted from seed-beds, to avoided various troubles consequent from the slow growth at first of onions grown from seed. The extra expense of transplanting is partly compensated for by less hand weeding being required, as the

hoe can be made to do nearly all the weeding in the transplanted crops.

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#### Tomatoes on Poles.

It is said that training tomato vines to poles is at least a pleasurable undertaking. Its profitableness we have not seen any mention of, though the *Rural New Yorker* says that the fruit will be very fine, which would be expected. Ordinarily the tomato grows well enough in the old way and for domestic purposes it takes but a few hills to supply the largest demand. The paper referred to, however, advises people as a matter of pleasure to set poles twelve feet high and train the vines to them. It says that if lateral shoots are pinched off, confining the vines to a single stem, and securing it loosely to the poles by loops, it will reach the top of the poles. As a diversion at least such things are worth trying.

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#### FREE.

#### Our Insect Foes and How to Destroy Them.

This is the title of a valuable illustrated book, which we have just received from P. C. Lewis, Catskill, N. Y. Mr. Lewis manufactures brass spraying outfits at a remarkably low price, and gives one of the illustrated books free to each purchaser. The book contains valuable information on the best ways and means for destroying insects of all kinds, and should be in the hands of every farmer and fruit grower. Write him at address given, for illustrated circulars and valuable information on the subject of spraying fruit trees. See his advertisement in another column.

**Why Discouraged?**

BY PROF. O. E. OLIN.

(Of Kansas Agricultural College)

DESPONDENCY is not confined to the men whose lot is hard and whose plans have failed. Many people whom the world calls happy live in the gloom of despair. The great Rubenstein is said to be dying of melancholy. He has received all the honors a grateful world can give, and yet life seems too insignificant to be worth the living.

Those who are despondent from the littleness of life surely do not know what infinity means. The universe is boundless, and human endeavor is boundless, and the powers of life are boundless. To talk in these days of the insignificance of life and the narrow confines of human effort, is like affirming darkness in the broad sunlight. Such people certainly do not realize what is taking place around them. Why, almost in my time steam-boats, the railway, the telegraph, the telephone, the phonograph, and the thousand electrical appliances have come; and by these tokens I know that the future has greater marvels still to unfold. I should like to live a hundred years longer, just to see how things come on. There are wonderful machines to be invented—there are great conquests to be achieved—there are new forces to be discovered in the next century that shall make of our earth a new earth in which shall dwell peace and comfort and happiness; and grand indeed must be the life of him who can describe it all as Æneas described the stirring times of Troy “Part of which I saw, and a part of which I was.”

Do not, then, allow yourself to grow

weary of effort because life is not grand. It is grand; and the race has a royal destiny before it. It should not fear to place its banners upon the topmost peaks. It ought to go on its way singing of victory.

People who look at life through the wrong end of the telescope should make a catechism affirming their belief in beauty, goodness, purity, holiness, and eternal life, and say it every morning. They should seek out the cheeriest and breeziest of their acquaintances, and be with them every day. There should be in every neighborhood one or two men whose principal business it is to enliven the despondent and to hearten the discouraged. Every great newspaper should have on its staff one able-bodied man whose sole duty it is to encourage everybody; to fill people so full of hope that there will be no room for regrets or discouragement. “The merry heart doeth good like a medicine”—*Industrialist*.

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For The Maryland Farmer.

**IN THE SUNSHINE.**

BY DR. CRACE-CALVERT.

Most of your readers will remember those times when the great remedy of blue-glass windows was the rage. Rooms were built with blue glass sky-lights and people would sit in them divested of clothes for hours, and such great benefit was the result that the whole country was wild on the subject.

The real benefit resulted not from the blue glass especially; but from the exposure to the sunlight. The effect of sunlight upon the body when reasonably administered is a powerful tonic, whether

it comes through blue glass, or without the intervention of any glass.

One of the most unhealthful influences in city life is the dark dreary rooms of our city houses. Many of them have scarcely a room which is suitable for general living.

When at meals it is important that the rooms should be light, cheerful, and that all things should tend to hilarity. But how often in city houses must the gas be lighted at every meal—morning, noon and night.

Don't keep rooms dark. If you have curtains, let them be thin, light, airy, so that you can have the fullest benefit of sunlight in rooms.

Every room in the house should receive the sunlight, and if it cannot actually reach every room; it should at least give its reflected light in full force to those where its direct rays cannot penetrate.

More sunlight would add largely to the health of our wives and daughters.

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### The Spraying Era.

A lengthy writing would be required to mention, even briefly, the various features connected with the development of spraying as a horticultural practice in this country. As is well known, a great variety of pestiferous insects are now held in subjection by distributing upon the infected plants different kinds of liquid compounds by means of force-pumps and spraying apparatus. But the latest phase in spraying is its use for distribution of various kinds of chemical compounds for the prevention of the spread of many kinds of minute fungi

which are destructive to various cultivated crops. Commencing the practice in this manner in vineyards to guard against mildews and rots, it has been extended to apple orchards to prevent the scab on the fruit, and it has also been employed with gratifying success on the growing crops of potatoes to save them from the rot. The spraying apparatus is now very generally employed by the best cultivators, and it would be difficult to find a fruit-grower, gardener or farmer who does not use or need it. Many have not yet adopted the new practices, but there is a great movement in that direction, and the era of spraying will move on, including more and more of our cultivators and develop greater knowledge of the practice and of the substances or compounds to be used both against insects or fungi.

The insects of the aphis family are more persistently injurious to all kinds of vegetation, and in the progress of the spraying evolution these early received attention. Among other solutions soap and water was found to be destructive to them; whale-oil soap for this purpose is considered particularly good. An inquiry into the cause of the destructive effect of this substance on insects led to the discovery of the physiological effects of oil on the spiracles or breathing organs of insects, which so clogs them as to cause death by asphyxia. Here, then, practical entomology came to the assistance of the gardener, and in the last twenty-five years this science has nobly ministered to horticulture. An examination of the garden literature of fifty years ago will show that little or nothing was known at that time of means whereby

to combat even the commonest insect; the whole advance in this art has been in the last half century, and more especially in the last twentyfive years.—*Vicks'*.

gels. As many tons of mangels as of silage can be grown per acre, and the labor of growing and harvesting does not count up heavily in either crop."

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#### THE WORLD'S FAIR IN '93.

Will be held in Chicago. The Pioneer Buggy in '91 will be made in Columbus, O. If you care to know how, send 10 cents, silver or stamps, for "Complete Horse Book," and that will tell. Pioneer Buggy Company, Columbus, Ohio.

A St. Louis gentleman has invented a rubber club for policemen. It is in the interest of humanity that it should come into general use, as it merely stuns a man without fracturing his skull.

A law just passed in Denmark, provides that all drunken persons shall be taken home in carriages, at the expense of the landlord who sold them the last glass.

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#### HELP FOR DESTITUTE FARMERS

Appeals for help come to us from farmers of the Dakotas, N. W. Kansas, and Nebraska. Last year's crops were a total failure so that they are in great want of seed. The prospect for the coming year if they can have the seed necessary, is good. They also need grain for their teams. Any sums of money which may be sent us, will be published with the donors name in our columns and promptly forwarded to the proper party to purchase necessities.

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#### Doubles.

Just how or why this change takes place is one of nature's secrets, but we can see it taking place if we will. I remember that in mother's old garden stood a single purple columbine.

As the years passed on it became double, growing more and more so until the last time I saw it, it was a marvel of doubleness but would bear but little seed. It had been undergoing the change for nearly twenty years and had been moved four or five times.

Care and cultivation usually bring about such results.

By looking closely at such changing flowers we will often find stamens partly transformed, having the anther borne on a stem which is partly a leaf or has a tiny leaf attached to it.

We may sometimes find this in flowers still single and then we are fortunate, provided we are prepared to take advantage of it. For the pollen from such stamens is naturally more likely to give

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#### ITEMS OF INTEREST.

A. L. Crosby, of Catonsville, writing of Dairying has the following to say about the Silo and Roots:

"I am inclined to say to those who are unable to build silos and hesitate about trying to dairy without silage that they can succeed without the silo and make as much money at dairying by growing roots to feed in place of silage."

"I have tried both root and silage; and while I prefer ensilage, I would not miss it so much if I had a cellar full of man-

us double flowers. Pollen taken from such a flower, even if the flower is not desirable, will give us, when used to fertilize the pistil of a single flower of good color and habit, a good percentage of double flowers of good markings and growth.

We can also secure fair results by taking pollen from a single flower and with it fertilizing a double flower.—*Vick.*

and prune to give a nice outline. This will be sufficient.

The indications are that the strawberry crown borer lays its eggs during March and April, in the plants near the surface of the ground.

For farmers, Early Orange and Downing gooseberries are recommended.

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### FRUITS.

Residents of cities, who have a few pear trees in their yards, find the English sparrow to be a great nuisance. Hardly a perfect flower bud is left when Spring comes, the birds having taken them all.

Grafting sometimes increases the size of fruit and is made the means of adapting plants to adverse soils, and often modifies the size of the plant.

The currants, Fay, Moore's Ruby, Wilder, Buby Castle, Red Dutch, White Dutch, Lee's Prolific, Crandall and Black Naples are recommended in the order named.

Pruning fruiting trees when transplanting them is primarily for the purpose of insuring their lives. All the pruning required by them is just what will compensate for what they lose in removal, and no more. The advice sometimes given to prune to bare poles is not good. There is no need of this loss of branches. Trees with nearly all their roots intact and fresh should not be so pruned. Thin out here and there,

### ENJOY AS YOU GO.

Some people mean to have a good time when their hard work is done say, at fifty. Others plan to enjoy themselves when their children are grown up. Others mean to take pleasure when they get to be rich, or when their business is built up on a sure foundation, or the farm paid for, or the grind of some particular sorrow is overpast.

These individuals might as well give up ever having a good time. Disease, poverty, death, claim each his victims. The lives of those whom we love, or our own, go out, and what is left?

Then take your pleasure to-day while there is yet time. Things may not be in the best shape for that visit you have been so long planning to your only sister. It might be better if you could wait till you had a more stylish suit of clothes, or till the boy was at home from college to look after the place; but she is ready now. You are both growing old—you had better go.

Enjoy the littles of every day. The great favors of fortune come to but few, and those that have them tell us that the quiet, homely joys, which are within the reach of us all, are infinitely the best.

Then let us not cast them away, but profitable and best adapted to the local-  
treasure every sunbeam, and get all the ity is the very place where dogs cause the  
light and warmth from it that the greatest amount of damage—annihilate  
blessing holds.

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For The Maryland Farmer.

#### FACTS O BE REMEMBERED.

If you allow anyone on the farm to shoot the birds you will certainly drive away the best insect destroyers the farmer can have.

We want subscribers; but we want also, all to be more than satisfied—truly pleased with what they get for their money.

The English Sparrow if a pest on your place should be trapped, not shot. The gun drives away the songsters, the insect eaters, the farmer's friends; but does not drive away the sparrows.

The great objections to farm work seems to be the amount of hard work forced upon the farmer's family—particularly upon the wife and daughters.

It is never safe to buy of unknown travelling agents—better even lose their splendid offers than be caught in any of their frauds.

We recently had an extensive dog-show in Baltimore where dogs ranged in price from \$20 to \$4000. And yet could anyone say which was the dog that would not worry a sheep just as quickly as the worthless cur?

Where sheep farming is the most

#### Girls Should Be Useful at Home.

There is a large class of Americans—people of opulence, men of acquired or inherited wealth—who do not hesitate to inculcate the belief among their children and especially their daughters, that it is useless and unnecessary for them to learn to do anything useful in connection with domestic manual labor.

It is no uncommon expression in the higher circles of society for ladies to declare:

“ My husband” or “ my father is rich; why, then should I demean myself by manual labor ?”

In such “society” it is deemed vulgar for a lady to know how to do a useful thing in connection with housekeeping.

Parents in these cases rear their daughters not to learn to do the useful, and many mothers whose husbands are under a burdstrain every day in the year to find the wherewithal to keep up appearances, impress their daughters with the idea that labor is degrading, and that a hand which shows any sign of manual work will not be sought in marriage by gentlemen.

We confess we do not know how true this is. If it is correct, then, indeed, it is the evidence of a lack of manhood, and if it is not true it is a wicked libel on the character of an American gentleman.

Girls who wont learn to do useful things at home because their fathers are

rich lose opportunities to fit themselves to meet the exigencies and the accidents of life.

It has always been the custom for the Princes of Germany to learn trades. The Bourbon Princes of France all acquired trades.

Some of them were printers, bookbinders, shipwrights, house carpenters, joiners and painters. They did not follow these vocations, but they understood them.

Royal and princely ladies in Germany and France understand every function of housekeeping and know how to perform it. They can go to the dairy and the stable and handle milk or a cow and a horse with dexterity and satisfaction.

The Prince of Wales is a book-binder, each of his brothers has a trade, and his sons are now learning trades according to their tastes.

All the ladies of the English royal household are accomplished in practical, things—they know how to do useful things, even if they are never called upon to perform them.

The mawkishness or sentimentality which encourages girls not to learn to do useful, practical and strengthening labor is a debasement of the noblest impulses of nature.

When such an inculcation is encouraged it tends to deprive girls especially from developing their mental and physical forces, to enervate them and neglect functions which, if properly trained, might develop the good and the grand in their character.

Work properly performed is a recuperator, not an exhauster, of mental and physical forces.

Knowledge is power, is an axiom as old as truth. To know how to do the useful is an accomplishment of which any girl can be proud, and especially any American girl.

#### FROZEN VEGETABLES.

To thaw vegetables or fruits without injury, throw them into water just above the freezing point and place them in the dark—they will come out all right.

Meats, fish and fowl are treated in the same manner to advantage.

#### BLOSSOMS.

The Japanese snowball and hydrangea, two popular shrubs at the present time, are readily increased by layering. In fact all shrubs with hardly an exception can be increased in the same way. In this way many nice things could be duplicated.

In the hardy plant border satisfactory blossoms can only be had by liberally feeding the plants. It is too often the case that they are left for years to take care of themselves, without any food at all being given to them.

Sweet peas are very satisfactory to cut flowers from in the Summertime. Seeds sown out of doors early, in deep soil, bloom nicely during the Summer months. The many colors are very pleasing.

#### WEIGHT OF RAIN.

A half inch of rain weighs about 57 tons to the acre, and an inch falling gently is often worth a great sum to our country in time of drought.

## NEW MUSIC.

It is a pleasure to look upon the clear and correct work of the Kunkel Bros., St. Louis, Mo. From them we have received:

Let's be Gay, Polka, Streabbog-Sidus .35  
Love's Dart, Impromptu, by

P. Tschaikowsky .60

Happy Birdlings, Rondo,

op. 217, Carl Sidus .32

From the enterprising firm of T. B. Harms & Co., New York, in their unsurpassed style of publishing Sheet Music, come:

Geraldine, Farewell—Song by

A. Wilson .40

Ship of the Dead—Baritone Song—

Chas. Graham .50

## Reliable Farm Machinery.

We invite the attention of persons in want of farm machinery, to the advertisement in this paper, of the old and reliable Empire Agricultural Works, over 30 years under the ownership and management of the present proprietor, Minard Harder, Cobleskill, N. Y. As it is, and always has been, the aim of Mr. Harder, to send out no machine or implement, except such as possess the highest standard of excellence and merit, as is evidenced by the high reputation his Fearless Horse-powers, Threshers and other machines have attained, our advice is, consult him before purchasing.

## BOOKS, ETC.

One of the most valuable books issued by the Dept. of Agriculture comes to us in the Fifth Report of the U. S. Entomological Commission. This is a book of nearly a thousand pages of reading matter and plates devoted to injurious forest insects.

The New Era in Russia by Col. Chas. A. de Arnaud, comes to us in Ogilvie's Peerless Series of 25 cent books. It brings Russia favorably to the reader.

The Review of Reviews occupies a

position of exceptional excellence, and we read it with a great degree of satisfaction.

The Census Reports have come regularly and we return our thanks. The Tobacco report for 1889 is 694,064 acres and 491,713,598 pounds.

The Third Annual Report of the Storrs School Agricultural Experiment Station, Conn., is a volume of 200 interesting pages.

The Century always new and never wearisome is worthy of every word of praise as to its May number.

The Poultry Monthly, of Albany, N Y., keeps up its high standard in every respect and stands No. 1 among magazines in that department.

It does us good to take up the Southern Cultivator with its crowded pages of good reading for every farmer's home.

## A WILD-FLOWER LUNCH.

MARGARET REXFORD.

**S**o many people have entertained us, Harold, I think we ought, in some way, to show that we appreciate it. Your Aunt Harriet spoke to me about it yesterday, and advised an evening reception; but that would be quite an expense, and then it sounds so formidable.

"You know, having lived in a country place all my life, I have had no experience in such things. Sometimes I have been almost afraid to accept invitations to these places for fear I should do something you would be ashamed of." Here I caught my breath nervously and looked up in my husband's face.

We were standing at the door, and he was buttoning up his driving gloves.

"You poor little thing! Why didn't you tell me, Maggie?" he said, looking earnestly at me. "This is sheer nonsense. I'm as proud of you as I can be. Aunt Harriet means all right, but she is inclined to meddle. There is no reason why you need entertain if you do not wish to."

"Oh, but I do, Harold, only I would prefer to commence in a smaller way; with a little lunch, perhaps, for the older ladies who have tried to make it pleasant for me because I am a bride. Do you think it would be all right?"

"Of course it would; just the thing. Pull out all your silver; it will be a fine chance to air the wedding presents, and as there are to be no gentlemen, I wouldn't bother much about the eatables; if things look pretty, the ladies won't mind."

"Much you know about it, sir," I retorted, but he was half way down the walk, and turned back with a mischievous smile to nod me good-by.

From my window, I watched him drive away, and then sat down to think it all out.

I was a stranger among strangers: they were all very fond of my husband, who was a physician, but I had not lived among them long enough to make friends and then Chester was such a proper, dignified little town, it talked so much about its "culture" and its "best families" and its "good society" and its "advantages," that, coming as I did, a bride, from the dear old farmhouse where I was born, it was hard, sometimes, not to feel depressed in this eminently respectable old town.

During the following days when I

tried to settle upon a few modest flowers for the occasion, visions of the little baskets of roses tied up with pink satin ribbons, which had adorned the table at a lunch given by one of the ladies in Chester, would persist in dancing before my eyes.

As soon as Harold's Aunt Harriet, who lived in the large brick house on the hill, received her invitation, she sent me the address of her caterer, and offered to relieve me of all responsibility in the way of table decorations.

It was kind of her, and I appreciated it, but I wanted the lunch to be all my own, cooking as well as flowers; and it must have been an inspiration that finally suggested buttercups and daisies.

For the next few days, the doctor said, he never came into the house that I was not deep in Mrs. Lincoln's cook-book.

Mother had given me an old fashioned gold band china tea set that belonged to grandmother, and I decided to have Bonillon, served in these cups, for my first course, as it could be easily made beforehand—a great point in its favor—for I must, as far as possible, select only such dishes as could be made the day before, with Jerusha's help.

My heart failed me when I remembered Jerusha and her blunders—red-headed, lank, with fingers that were all thumbs, and with hair that would stand out like spikes. With a sigh, I figuratively swallowed her, and proceeded with my list, referring to the cook-book again to study up fish for my next course.

"Here is just the thing I want. Remnants of cold boiled or baked fish—using the stuffing and sauce also—may be freed from skin and bones, flaked, and put in a shallow dish, in alternate layers, with

the stuffing; moisten with cream sauce, cover with buttered crumbs and bake till brown."

"The very thing! I could have baked haddock stuffed, for dinner the day before, and take what was left for my lunch. I would drop it in the larger clam shells that sister Marion brought me from the beach, and serve one at each plate with tiny rolls. I could prepare it all myself and have them ready to put into the oven to bake that morning.

I gave a sigh of relief. Two courses decided upon; now for the meats. How I would have liked lamb chops, rolled in the pretty little white papers I knew how to make, and served with green peas; but it was not to be thought of. Jerusha with her best intentions had never yet been able to master the mysteries of broiling.

She could fry "fust-rate," but she didn't "take nat'r'al'y to brilin."

If only mother or Marion were here to advise me; Marion was so clever with that sort of thing. What nice little patties she used to make for tea. Why couldn't I have them for my lunch—I knew how to make puff paste, and I could bake them the afternoon before, and have the tongue chopped, and all ready to put into them half an hour before the lunch.

I remember just how she prepared it, stirring the chopped tongue or veal into cream sauce, flavored with a bit of onion, and the beaten yolks of two eggs cooked into it for about a minute, then when cold, stirring in the whites, whipped up to a stiff foam.

The tears came into my eyes as I stopped to think how pretty Marion looked the first time she surprised us

with this new dish. How proud we were of her. She was coming to make us a visit soon. Wouldn't I hug her! and—well, this wouldn't do. I must keep to my subject.

What next? Salad—my courage revived—a comfortable sort of dish that could be made hours before, and lobster salad was my specialty: I could make it with my eyes shut—no trouble about that.

It was all right now, for dessert came next, and I could make a delicious mould of Bavarian cream and serve it in my cutglass ice cream dish, the pride of my heart, Marion's wedding present to me. I would put a border of stiff whipped cream, with strawberries dropped in, around the mould of Bavarian cream, and serve sponge cake with it. Then we would have hot chocolate brought into the parlor after we left the table. I could trust Jerusha to bring that in all right.

After all it was not such a hard thing to prepare for a lunch party if you only gave mind and hands both to it.

Jerusha became interested, and worked as she had never worked before. Between times, she washed and "did up" her best light-print dress, and long white apron trimmed with crocheted edging, while I made a neat little white muslin cap to adorn and hide the refractory hair.

She had her doubts about wearing it at first, but when the doctor told her it was "the prettiest thing he had seen her wear since she came"—which was not saying much—she succumbed, and declared it her intention to wear it "afternoons when she got fixed up," much to our delight.

The doctor took me for a drive into

the country, after we had everything in readiness for the next day, and we came home with the bottom of the carriage covered with buttercups and daisies, and some birch bark, that I sewed into a basket, with slender saplings crossed on either side, and sewed to it for a support. This I filled with moss, and arranged with my buttercups and daisies.

I also made a round birch-bark basket, which I filled like the first one, and substituted it for the hanging lamp over my table, suspending it with yellow ribbons from the hook. The next morning I removed the ornaments from the dining-room mantel, and piled moss into four tin biscuit pans, filling them with short stem daisies, and buttercups, and placing moss around the outside of the pan. This completely covered my mantel, and transformed it into a lovely bank of flowers.

I was elated with my success, for the table looked lovely, with the birch basket for a centre-piece, and little bouquets of daisies tied with yellow ribbon at each plate, with bon-bon dishes filled with confectionery, olives, and salted almonds placed here and there.

Jerusha so entered into the spirit of it all, that she appeared with a huge yellow bow pinned to her cap, which I had some difficulty in persuading her not to wear. "Seein' as haow you've got some o' them yellow buttercups stuck into yer white dress, I thought mabbe we'd all match better if I wore a yeller bow."

Good-natured Jerusha! Harold and I laughed over it afterwards until we almost cried; but I was too nervous to see the ludicrous side of it then.

It all passed off nicely, without any

mistakes. Aunt Harriet sat at the other end of the table and assisted me with the serving, and according to her suggestion, Mrs. J. Templeton Brown was seated at my right. The great lady was kind enough to express herself as delighted with my "unique little lunch," which pleased me, of course, and made Aunt Harriet beam.

"It was such a pretty idea to decorate entirely with wild flowers, Harold," this same relative remarked afterwards to my husband. "I was really proud of Margaret,—her lunch was a success, and her dress was in keeping with the whole affair."

"I told her she had not begun to appreciate you, little woman," said my husband, looking at me with a world of love and pride in his eyes.—*The Household.*



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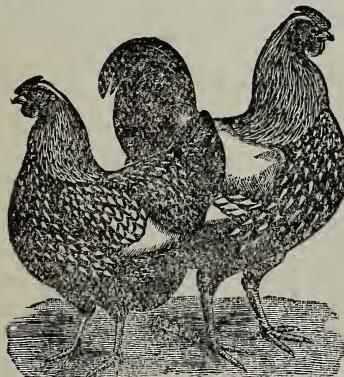
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### A GUIDE TO PROFITABLE POULTRY KEEPING.

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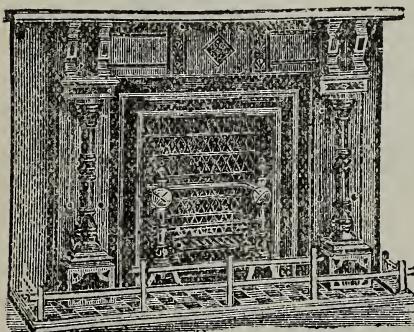
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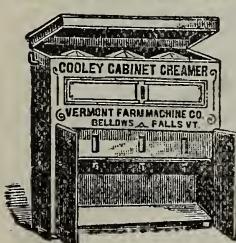
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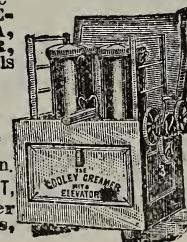
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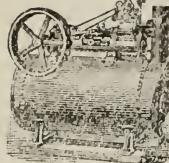
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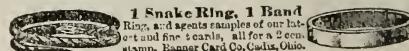
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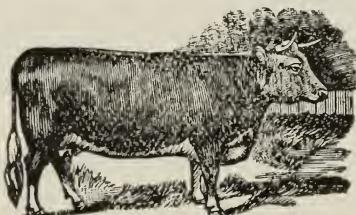
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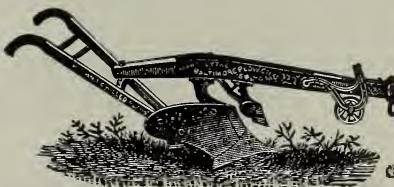
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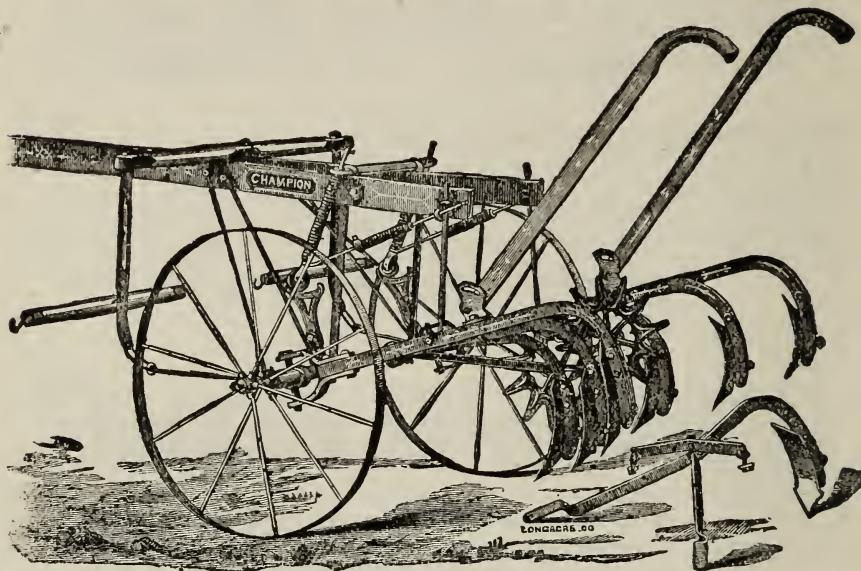
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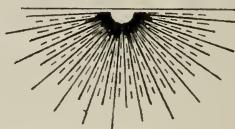
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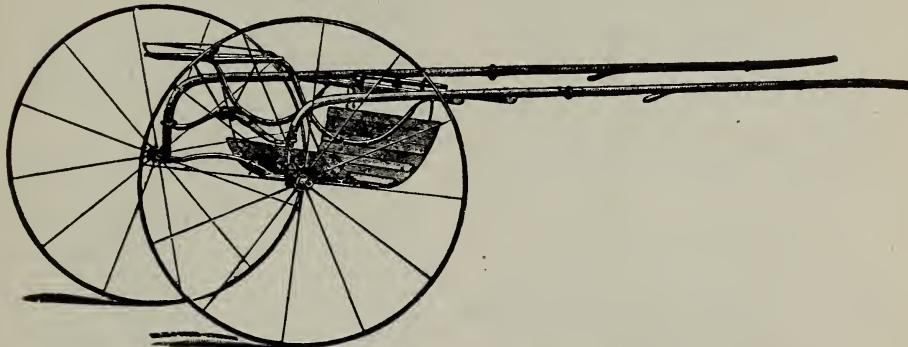


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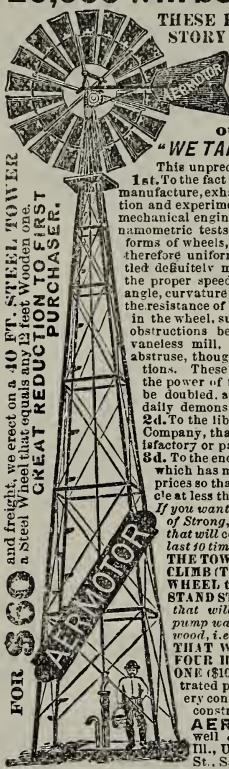
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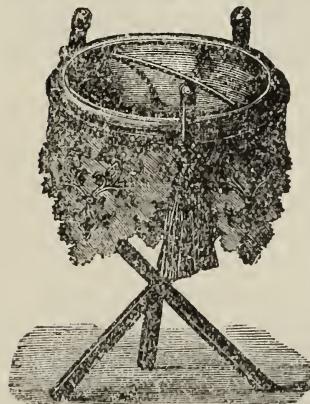
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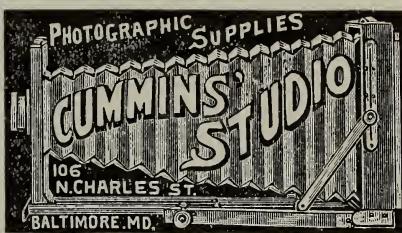
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